OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (157-1067) (157-1308) DATE: 7/9/68

FROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

SUBJECT: BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT (BOP), aka.
RM

COMMUNITY ON THE MOVE FOR EQUALITY (COME)
RM

On 6/26/68 Lt. E. H. ARKIN, Intelligence Bureau, Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, furnished to SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE a copy of a report dated 6/26/68 given to ARKIN by police undercover agent, code name [redacted] re his 6/25/68 activities with Black Organizing Project (BOP) and Community on the Move for Equality (COME). This report reads as follows:

COPIES:
1 - 157-1067 (BOP)
1 - 157-1308 (COME)
1 - 157-556 (Possible Racial Violence, Major Urban Areas)
1 - 157-1019 [redacted]
1 - 157-1277
1 - 100-4528
1 - 157-1187
1 - 157-1114
1 - 157-1126
2 - 170-NEW
1 - 157-1276
1 - 157-1263
1 - 170-98
2 - 170-NEW
1 - 157-1299
WHL:gmh 1 - 157-1168 (Racial Situation in Tennessee)
(18)

23.4

157-1067-196

JUL 1 1968
FBI — Memphis

ME-157-1067
ME 157-1308

"6/26/68 Wed. 8:45 A [redacted]

"(Re 6/25/68 Activities: Re BOP and COME)

"1:15 P went 1644 Hanauer #2, no one there. Informant then went down on Beale St met Chas. Harrington, Emmitt House, & 'Herbert T' male Negro. 5'11" 170 # dark [illegible], has wide seperation between two upper front teeth. These group then went to Informants car & smoked a marijuana cigarette. Stayed in car about 20 minutes smoking & talking.

"Then left the car & source & Harrington went to the Star Dust Cafe on Beale St. here [illegible] ran into Chas. Cabbage, Herman Pruitt & Don Neely. They were talking about the COME meeting to be held at 1st Baptist Church later on June 26, 1968. The proprietor of the cafe came over and told this group they couldn't say if they didn't buy something. Then moved outside in front of the Old Daisy Theatre. While standing outside Hurley Gibson came up. Informant & Gibson then went to Henry's Pool Room & shot a few games of pool. After that left pool room ran into House & Harrington in front of the Harlem House and all went down to the 1st Baptist Church on Beale St. as it was almost 7:30 pm.

"When we got to the church, pastored by Rev. James A. Jordan, 1840 Boyle - 946-6371, 379 Beale (church) 527-6832, no one was there but the minister or pastor of the church & Neall Famon & Charles Cabbage who were sitting around talking to the pastor.

"We were at the church about 5 min. when Emmitt House suggested that we go to the apt. at 1644 Hanauer #2 and pick up the Robutussin AC and bring it back down to 'Herbert T' who was at the Harlem House.

'Got to the apartment, but the lady in the first apt. east of 1644 Hanauer #2 is keeping the Robitussin AC for the Invaders. She was not at home when we first got there but arrived about 8:00 pm. House got the Robitussin AC from her & we took it back downtown. When we left the apt. to go back downtown those in the car were source, House, Harrington, and Arthur Norwood. Packed the car at 4th & Beale where 'Herbert T' got the Robitussin AC sold it out of the car while we went to the church.

"The COMA meeting at 1st Baptist Church started at 8:30 pm. Those present: Rev. Lawson L.V. P. Ralph Jackson, Cornelius Crenshaw, Mrs. Jarlene Mathews, Bishop Trotter, FNU Trotter, 27 yrs, M/C 5'10" 160#, brown skinned low cut hair conservative, hangs out with Rev. Lawson, Smith, Chas. Cabbage, Harrington, House, Famon, Arthur Norwood, Johnnie (LNU), M/C 5'11" 160# dark comp. small goatee, short med. hair 22 yrs., Rev. L. R. Denson who acted as Chairman of the meeting and approx. 15 others (adults mixed males & females).

"Meeting began with Rev. Lawson proposing that the reading & adoption of the constitution be postponed till next Tues. July 2, 1968. John Smith & Chas. Cabbage wanted to go ahead with the meeting and the business at hand and forget about all of this formal protocol this prompted an argument between Invaders & Rev. Lawson & Jackson.

"Lawson gave in and read the constitution but he wouldn't let them vote on it.

"Another argument insued at which time Rev. Jackson moved that the meeting adjourn at which time they started to get up and leave but Ewall Famon & Arthur Norwood closed the door on the command of Chas. Cabbage & didn't let anyone out.

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"Rev. Jackson threatened Ewald Famon that he would get a warrant for his arrest if he didn't let them leave. Chas. Cabbage told Famon to let them go & Jackson & Lawson & approx. 15 other left the meeting.

"After they had gone Chas. Cabbage nominated the pastor of the 1st Baptist Ch. to the new Chairman of COME (Rev. James A. Jordan), and he was voted in.

"Harrington nominated Cornelia Crenshaw as Secretary & she was voted in.

"1st order - John B. Smith want to know where all of COME's money was?

"2nd order of day was to establish a fact finding Committee to look into the finances of COME.

"3rd order was to accept the constitution read earlier.

"4th order - setting of a new meeting for 7/2/68, 7:30 p, at 1st Bapt. Ch., at which time they will elect permanent officers.

"Benson Invaders want this take over was for the money in COME. COME 23,000.00 in bank, $1300 a month for 14 mo. from Labor Union VISTA- Vol. in service to America. promised 40,000.00 if COME is accepted & incorporated."

Lt. ARKIN also furnished a copy of the "Proposed Plan of Organization for Community on the Move for Equality" (tentative) which was read at the above meeting, a copy of which is attached hereto to each copy of this memorandum.

RECOMMENDATION: [redacted]